
5.10 - Public Services

5.10.1 - Introduction

This section describes the existing public services setting and potential effects of project implementation on those services. Descriptions and analysis in this section are based on information contained in the Public Services Correspondence (see Appendix I, Public Services Correspondence).

5.10.2 - Regulatory Setting

Public services are largely subject to local policies and ordinances. The only relevant regulation that would affect the proposed project is the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code Title 9 Fire Code, which specify a wide range of building and site design and material requirements with the goal of reducing the risks posed by fire and other emergencies. The municipal code is heavily based on the national Uniform Fire Code.

5.10.3 - Existing Setting

Fire Services

The Newport Beach Fire Department (NBFD) is responsible for reducing loss of life and property from fire, medical, and environmental emergencies. In addition to fire suppression, NBFD also provides fire prevention and hazard reduction services. The Fire Prevention Division works in conjunction with the City's Planning, Public Works, and Building Departments to ensure that all new construction and remodels are built in compliance with local and State building and fire codes, including the provision of adequate emergency access and on-site fire protection measures.

There are eight fire stations strategically located throughout the City to provide prompt assistance to area residents. The NBFD currently employs 146 full-time and 170 seasonal employees to provide 24-hour protection and response to the City's residents and visitors. NBFD is divided into four divisions: operations, fire prevention, training, and administrative. The NBFD divides its fire suppression staff into three shifts per month, with 39 personnel working each shift. Of the NBFD employees located at the eight NBFD stations, seven paramedics serve per shift. Two are always on duty at Stations 2, 3, and 5 with paramedic ambulances. In addition, Station 8 is a Paramedic Assessment Unit (PAU) with one paramedic crew member.

The nearest fire station to the project site is Station No. 2, located at 475 32nd Street, off Newport Boulevard south of Pacific Coast Highway, which is approximately 1/2 mile from the site. The second-nearest fire station is Station No. 1, located at 110 East Balboa Boulevard, at the corner of East Balboa Boulevard and Island Avenue, nearly one mile from the project site. Either station might respond to the project site, depending on availability.

Police Services

The Newport Beach Police Department (NBPD) provides police service to the proposed project site. The police department is located at 870 Santa Barbara Drive and provides services in crime

prevention and investigation, community awareness programs, and other services such as traffic control. The NBPD employs a total of 285 personnel, including 1 chief, 3 captains, 8 lieutenants, 22 sergeants, 115 sworn officers, 92 civilian personnel, and 44 seasonal and part-time personnel. The NBPD is divided into three divisions, including support services, patrol/traffic, and detectives.

NBPD currently has authorization for 149 sworn officers. With a population of approximately 87,400 residents, the ratio of officers is currently 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents. On average, 3,300 emergency calls are received per month, with an average response time of 4 minutes, 41 seconds in 2008. An average of 74,000 police responses per year are dispatched. In 2008, the average police response time for nonemergency calls was 16 minutes, 21 seconds. It is noted that the response time for nonemergency calls includes a variety of nonemergency calls, including parking violations and animal control calls. There are no current plans to increase staffing levels or to expand the NBPD.

Schools

The Newport-Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD), with a service area of 58.83 square miles, provides educational services to the City of Newport Beach, City of Costa Mesa, and other unincorporated areas of Orange County. The Airport Area is served by the Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD). A small portion of the City located in the eastern part of the City is served by the Laguna Beach Unified School District (LBUSD). NMUSD serves the majority of the City and has 32 public schools including 22 elementary schools, 2 junior high schools, 5 high schools, 2 alternative education centers, and 1 adult school. Of these, 2 high schools, 1 middle school, and 8 elementary schools are located within City limits.

Parks

Currently, the City of Newport Beach owns and maintains an approximately 348 acres of parkland. The Balboa Peninsula current has a total of 6.5 acres of parkland. The project site currently has approximately two acres of parkland.

5.10.4 - Thresholds of Significance

According to the CEQA Guidelines' Appendix G Environmental Checklist, the following question is evaluated to determine whether environmental effects to public services are significant.

Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services: Fire protection, Police protection, Schools, Parks?

5.10.5 - Project Impact Analysis and Mitigation Measures

This section discusses potential impacts associated with the proposed project and provides mitigation measures where necessary.

Fire Protection

5.10-A: The project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for fire protection.

Project-Specific Analysis

According to the NBFD, the current facilities, equipment, and personnel are adequate to serve the project site (all three phases), including on the peak Fourth of July holiday. As required by the Uniform Fire Code and the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code Title 9, the proposed project would include specific design features such as appropriate emergency access, approved building materials, etc. Conformance with these codes reduces the risks associated with fire hazards. In addition, the proposed project would reduce building and population density on the site.

Implementation of the proposed project should not have a significant impact on fire services provided for the area, nor would the proposed project require new fire protection facilities. Therefore, the project's impact on fire services is considered less than significant.

Cumulative

Implementation of the proposed project (all three phases) in addition to all other related projects in the vicinity of the project site could add to the cumulative need for fire services. The NBFD regularly evaluates fire protection services throughout the City. The impacts associated with surrounding projects are not considered cumulatively significant and would not require additional fire personnel staffing, equipment or facilities to maintain adequate levels of fire protection throughout the City of Newport Beach and, in particular, in the immediate vicinity of the project site. The project's contribution to the cumulative impact is considered less than significant because the fire services currently provided to the project area would not be substantially affected.

Mitigation Measures***Project Specific***

No mitigation measures are required.

Cumulative

No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation***Project Specific***

Less than significant.

Cumulative

Less than significant.

Police Protection

5.10-B: The project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for police protection.

Project-Specific Analysis

According to the NBPD, the current level of personnel and facilities is sufficient to provide police services to the project site (all three phases), including on the peak Fourth of July holiday.

Development of the proposed project would allow for more access to the site than the previous use of mobile homes, and would thus improve response time to the site. Accordingly, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact on police services.

Cumulative

Implementation of the proposed project in addition to all other projects in the vicinity of the project site could add to the cumulative impact on police services. The NBPD regularly evaluates police protection services throughout the City. The cumulative impacts of project development, along with the development of the related projects could require additional police staffing, equipment or facilities to maintain adequate levels of police protection through out the City of Newport Beach. However, the project's contribution to the city-wide impact on police protection is considered less than significant because the existing police services provided to the project area would not be substantially affected with project implementation.

Mitigation Measures***Project Specific***

No mitigation is required.

Cumulative

No mitigation is required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation***Project Specific***

Less than significant.

Cumulative

Less than significant.

Schools

5.10-C: The project would not in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for schools.

Project-Specific Analysis

The proposed project would not result in additional residences to the city and therefore would not create the need for new school facilities. Therefore, the proposed project would have no impact on school services.

Cumulative

Implementation of the proposed project in addition to all other projects in the vicinity of the project site could add to the cumulative impact on school personnel and facilities throughout the City of Newport Beach. However, the project's contribution to the city-wide impact on schools is considered less than significant because the project site would not be adding students to the district.

Mitigation Measures*Project Specific*

No mitigation measures are required.

Cumulative

No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation*Project Specific*

No impact.

Cumulative

Less than significant.

Parks

5.10-D: The project would not result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for parks.

Project-Specific Analysis

Implementation of the proposed project would result in approximately ten acres of park, increasing the amount of parkland on the project site by nearly eight acres. Therefore, the proposed project would result in a beneficial impact on parkland within the City as well as on Balboa Peninsula.

Cumulative

Implementation of the proposed project would increase the amount of park acreage within the City. Therefore, the proposed project would not contribute to cumulative adverse impacts.

Mitigation Measures*Project Specific*

No mitigation measures are required.

Cumulative

No mitigation measures are required.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Project Specific

Beneficial impact.

Cumulative

Beneficial impact.